

A Drop of News

The Maple City Stormwater Toolbox

July 2023

City Facility Inspections



Due to the new regulations in the General Stormwater Permit every three months a designated inspector will inspect City facilities in which pollutants or contaminants could affect the surface and ground water.

Part of the inspections include looking for things such as:

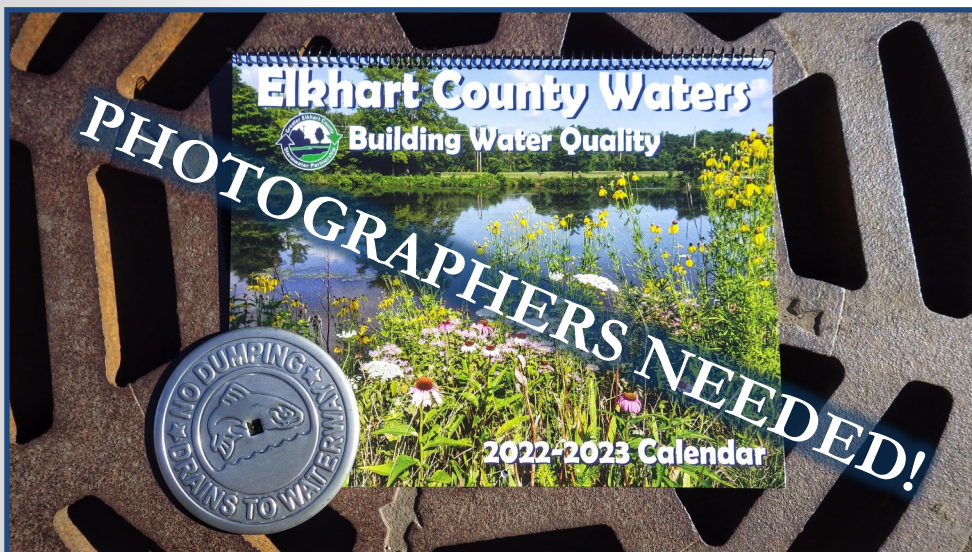
- ❖ Storm Drains that have accumulated trash and sediment.
- ❖ Identifying where the facility SWPPP (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan) is located as well as making sure emergency contacts are posted.
- ❖ Checking fueling areas for past or present leaks/spills and documenting those areas.
- ❖ Identifying where the facility's spill kit(s) is located in case of an emergency and that it contains sufficient spill response materials.
- ❖ Keeping grass clippings and other material out of the storm sewer conveyance system.



Part of the inspection is to make sure secondary containment, shown here, for things like fuel and additives are in good condition.

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The Greater Elkhart County Stormwater Partnership is once again requesting photographs for the 2024-2025 Stormwater Calendar. The theme of the upcoming calendar is "Elkhart County Waterways" and the Partnership is soliciting photographs of the 27 waterways that flow through Elkhart County and Lake Michigan, which is where most of the water in Elkhart County flows. Most of Elkhart County is part of the Lake Michigan Watershed while a small portion of the southwest corner (near Nappanee) of the County is part of the Gulf of Mexico Watershed.



For more information on the waterways and how to upload pictures, visit the Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District website or scan the QR code.

www.elkcoswcd.org



We are excited for the community to share the sights they have seen and to showcase those pictures in the 2024-2025 Stormwater Calendar.



Industrial trash in Horn Ditch

August is Water Quality Month

As we enter the month of August we want to celebrate water quality when the last bits of summer are being enjoyed with recreational water activities.

This month helps to remind us how we can protect our local waters and promote a healthier ecosystem for the bio-life and people that enjoy them. Here are some resources and information on our local water quality from the City and US EPA.

Water Quality Data - <https://goshenindiana.org/water-sampling-data>

How's My Waterway - bit.ly/howsmwaterway-epa

As we celebrate our water quality we continue to explore our Words for Waterways based on size and location. This month's word is **Brook**. Additional etymology information from www.etymologeek.com.

“Brook”

A water meadow, low marshy ground. A body of running water smaller than a river; a small stream.

Brook comes from Middle English (1150-1500) spoken throughout England and Scotland after the Norman conquest of England in 1066.



Drain marker used to denote where the water flows.

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- ❖ Inspecting for trash and making sure materials are properly contained and under shelter if stored outside.
- ❖ Inspecting for tracking off site so as to not get sediment onto public roadways.
- ❖ Making sure that all of the drains located at the facility are marked properly with where the water goes once inside the structure.
- ❖ Making sure the map of the facility is up to date with locations of stored materials.

Having employees and staff perform inspections goes a long way in keeping our waterways free of trash, and City facilities in good condition.

Report a Pollutant

Stormwater pollutants include anything other than rain that could flow or be washed into a storm drain. If you see a pollutant entering a storm drain, please call 574-534-2201, send an email to stormwater@goshencity.com, or submit a Stormwater Report through the City's "Report an Issue" button on the City of Goshen website, www.goshenindiana.org.

Public Works & Utilities
Department of Stormwater
204 E. Jefferson Street
Goshen, Indiana 46528
574-534-2201
bit.ly/goshen-stormwater

Director of Public Works:
Dustin Sailor

Stormwater Coordinator:
Jason Kauffman 537-3832

Stormwater Specialist
Ryan Miller 533-8733

